

## **SB 1573 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery**

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**Prepared By:** Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/8, 2/10

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Appropriates to Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) for the biennium ending June 30, 2023, the amount of \$50 million in General Fund to be expended to make distributions to wildfire-prone counties and conduct forest thinning operations. Requires such moneys be used to conduct forest thinning operations in Clackamas, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, and Marion counties. Directs ODF to allocate \$5 million of \$50 million to fund forest thinning on public lands in each county. Directs ODF to confer with county governing body for each county to determine specific operations as specified. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

##### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-2 Revises list of counties to which funds would be directed to be used to conduct forest thinning operations. Directs Department of Forestry (ODF) to allocate amount appropriated equally among the counties to conduct operations on public lands. Revises language directing ODF to confer with counties to determine specific thinning operations to be conducted so that amounts may be used to directly fund ODF operations on state lands and remaining balance may be used to fund county governing body efforts to increase operations on public lands.

##### **BACKGROUND:**

Forest thinning operations are undertaken to manage fire risk by reducing tree density and ladder fuels.

Senate Bill 1573 would appropriate \$50 million to the Oregon Department of Forestry to distribute to wildfire-prone counties and conduct forest thinning operations.